

SCCC – GOD WILL SEND HIS PROPHETS

S - Scriptures

“Then Asa called to the Lord his God and said, “Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name, we have come against this vast army. Lord, you are our God; do not let mere mortals prevail against you.” 2 Chronicles 14: 11

C – Consideration

Asa was king over Judah and started his government, honoring God, with a humble heart. In his first years, the Ethiopians came up against him with huge and powerful army. In hopelessness, he prayed, and “the Lord struck down the Ethiopians before Asa and Judah. The enemy fled, and Asa and his army pursued them. Such a great number of Ethiopians fell that they could not recover; they were crushed before the Lord and his forces. The men of Judah carried off a large amount of plunder.” As the king returned from the battle a prophet went out with a message, “Listen to me, Asa and all Judah and Benjamin. The Lord is with you when you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you.” This king prospered and for many years his kingdom lived in peace; however, he faced a second invasion, and instead of following the same path, he sent gold and silver to the king of Syria to come and help him against the new enemy.

C – Commitment

The narrative shows how easily we can become indifferent, especially when prosperity comes, and we end up forgetting that God is the source of our blessings. Asa forgot that God was the one that brought victory to Judah, but as the prophet had warned him years before, he forsook the Lord. But in His mercy, God sent him a second prophet with the following message, “At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa and said to him: “Were not the Ethiopians and Libyans a mighty army with great numbers of chariots and horsemen? Yet when you relied on the Lord, he delivered them into your hand. For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war.” Why did God send another prophet to Asa? He could simply leave him to his own destiny. He sent him as an act of mercy, to remember the King and to see if he would repent of his error. When God confronts us, His idea is not to condemn, but to bring us back under His protection. He had previously warned Asa, “if you forsake me, I will forsake you!” How can we live without God? It is to be like a lamb alone among a pack of wolves. The sadness is that, “Asa was angry with the prophet because of this; he was so enraged that he put him in prison. At the same time Asa brutally oppressed some of the people.”

C – Call

Lord, there are hundreds of examples of the consequences when we put our trust in men, rather than You. Help me my Lord to always keep this truth in my heart: You are the one who sustains, protects and prospers me. Help me to humble myself when You send Your prophets to rebuke me when I sin, so that I would repent and turn away from evil. In Jesus’ name, I pray. Amen.